GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2529
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2008
AKASH MISSILE SYSTEM
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a nine-day Akash missile campaign was held in December, 2007;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether there are any apprehensions/doubts in the minds of the users like the Army and the Air Force on the readiness and effectiveness of the Akash missile system;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the extent to which this campaign has been able to clear such apprehensions/doubts?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Air Force user flight trials were conducted during 11-20 December 2007 at Interim TestRange (ITR), Chandipur and all trial objectives were met completely. Air Force is processingthe case for procurement of Akash Missile System from the designated Production Agency.

(c) & (d): Air Force is processing the case for procurement of Akash Missile Systems based ontheir user trials. Army has informed that they will take a final view on inducting the AkashWeapon System after studying the report of Air Force User trials.

(e) The campaign has conclusively established the readiness and effectiveness of Akash WeaponSystem in area defence role against flying targets under various flying condition includingengaging target in "ripple" mode.